

# Challenges Facing Grid Integration of FC/ Hydrogen Technologies

## “NREL Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF) Workshop”



ADVANCED POWER  
& ENERGY PROGRAM  
UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA • IRVINE

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August 30, 2012

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## Outline

- Some thoughts on Grid Integration Challenges
- **EXAMPLE:** Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration (ISGD)
- Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Production Dynamics & Control

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## Grid Integration Challenges

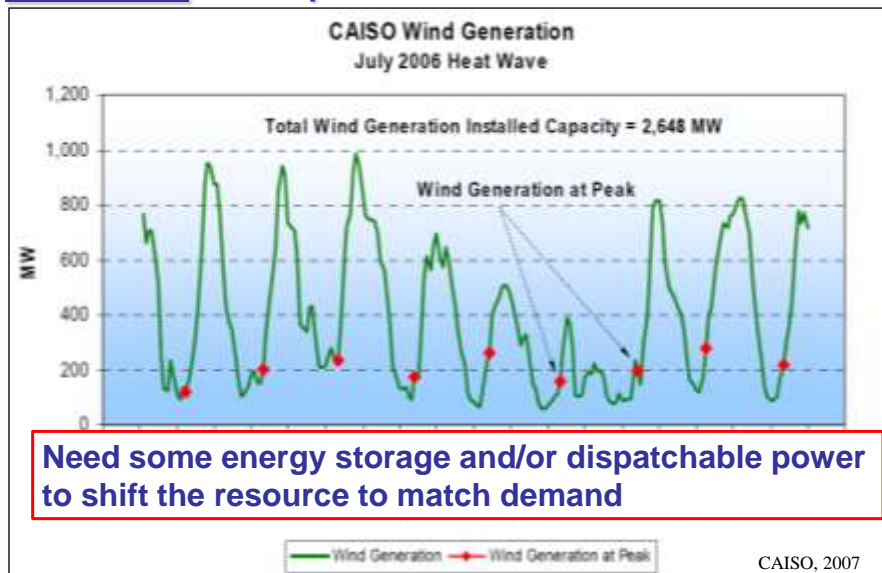
### Policy challenges:

- Integration requirements different in each state
- **Tariff / Rate Structure Challenges**
  - Departing Load charges
  - Demand charges
  - No Net-Metering
  - Co-Metering (Wholesale vs. Retail price)
  - No structures for additional benefit payments
    - Power quality
    - Power factor correction
    - Demand response
    - Virtual utility response
- **Utility Design / Review costs**
- **Metering & Interconnect Switchgear costs**
- **Islanding rules**



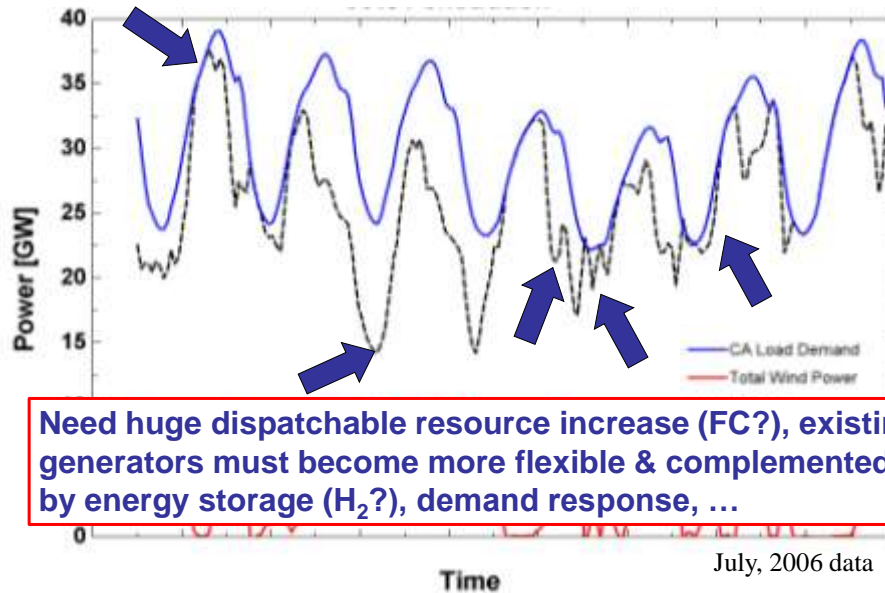
## Grid Integration Challenges

### Wind Power – Example of Non-Coincidence with Peak



## Grid Integration Challenges

### Energy Deployment Model: 33% Wind Penetration



Need huge dispatchable resource increase (FC?), existing generators must become more flexible & complemented by energy storage (H<sub>2</sub>?), demand response, ...

July, 2006 data

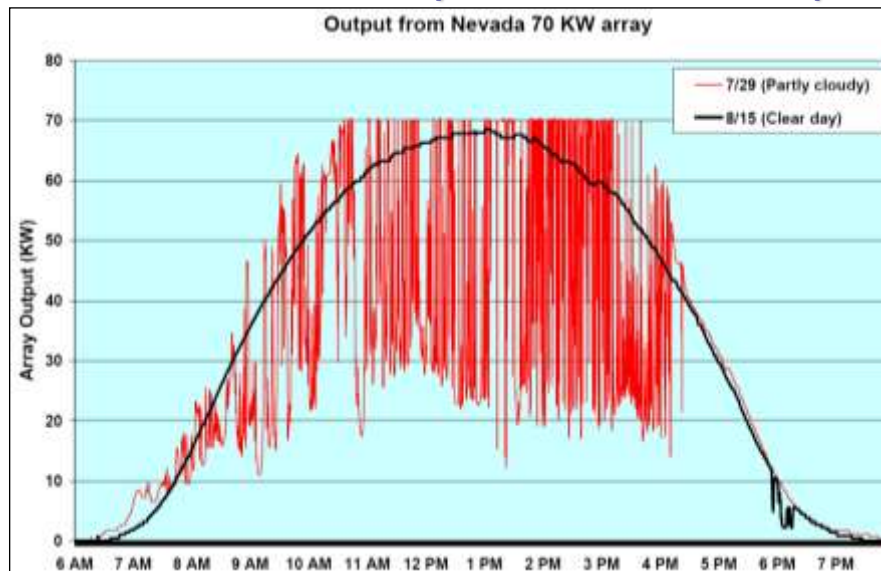
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## Grid Integration Challenges

### Solar Power ~coincident with peak – but clouds cause problem



SunPower, Inc., 2008

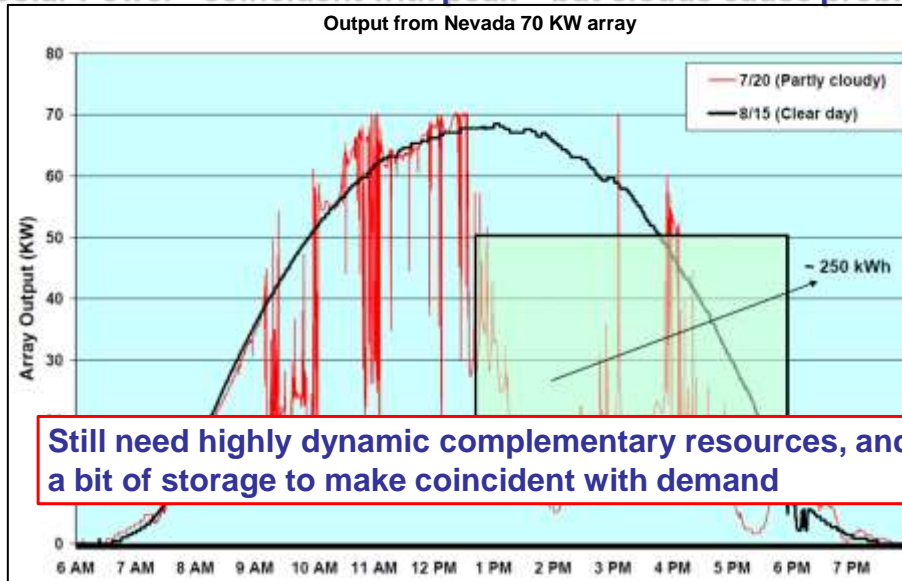
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## Grid Integration Challenges

**Solar Power ~coincident with peak – but clouds cause problem**



**Still need highly dynamic complementary resources, and a bit of storage to make coincident with demand**

SunPower, Inc., 2008

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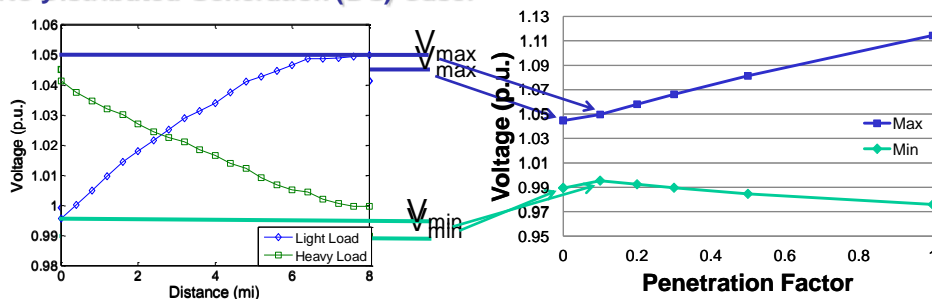
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## Grid Integration Challenges

### Circuit Operation/Control Challenges: Voltage Regulation

- **Not 50% DG Penetration (DG) Case** – accommodated with current infrastructure:



- Use load-tap changing (LTC) transformer to control substation voltage

What happens when we add PV to this distribution circuit?

- Penetration Factor = DG capacity / Circuit baseline

**Two-way power flow, high penetration of loads (e.g., EVs) or generation (e.g., FC systems) pose capacity challenges**

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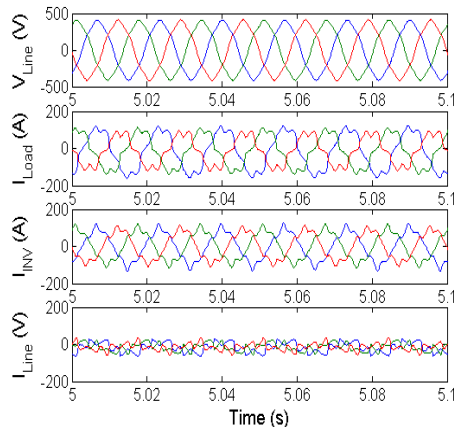
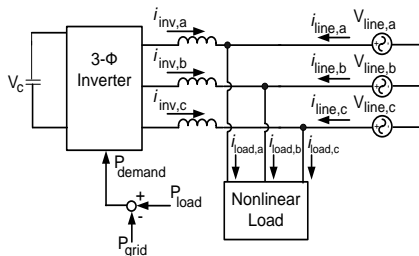
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## Grid Integration Challenges

### Inverter Interconnection & Harmonics: Baseline case:

- Examine inverter-load relationship
- DG following measured building load (non-linear)
- Inverter-only
- Assume  $P_{grid} = 10kW$



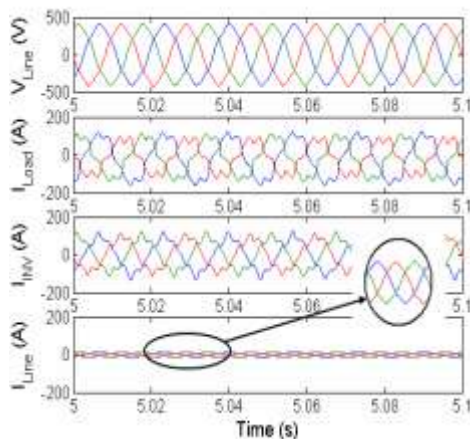
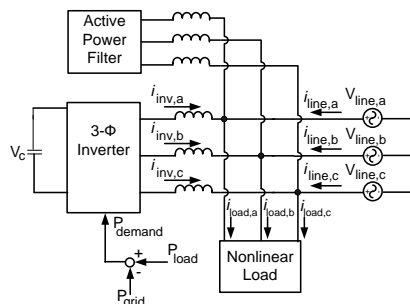
***Inverter-only design is insufficient to compensate harmonics***



## Grid Integration Challenges

### Inverter Interconnection & Harmonics: APF case:

- Infinite load-following
- Add active power filter (APF)
- APF provides compensation current



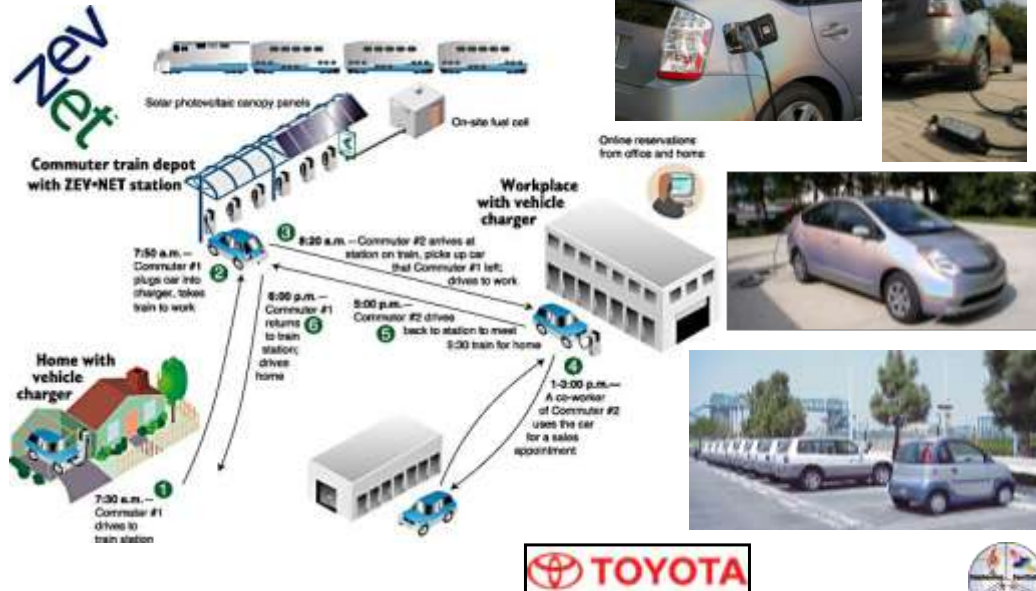
***Addition of APF reduces undesirable line current harmonics***





# Grid Integration Challenges

## EVs: Resource or Capacity Challenge?



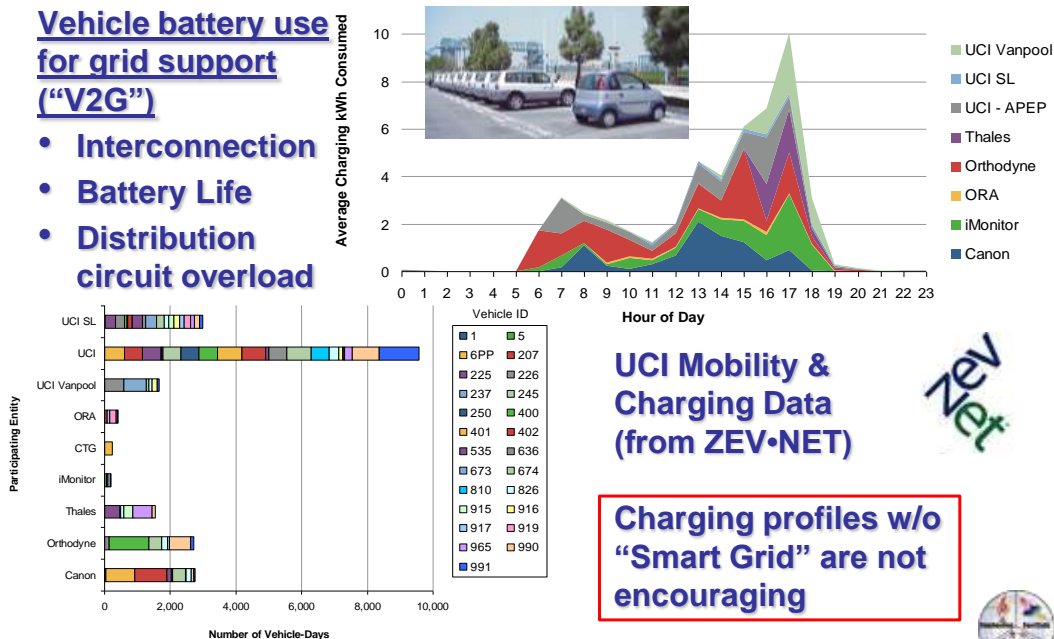
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# Grid Integration Challenges

## Vehicle battery use for grid support ("V2G")

- Interconnection
- Battery Life
- Distribution circuit overload



UCI Mobility & Charging Data (from ZEV-NET)

Charging profiles w/o "Smart Grid" are not encouraging

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## Outline

- Some thoughts on Grid Integration Challenges
- **EXAMPLE: Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration (ISGD)**
- Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Production Dynamics & Control



## Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration (ISGD)

### Project Team led by Southern California Edison (SCE):

- UC Irvine – energy conversion device testing, optimization and benefits analysis, faculty housing coordination
- GE – advanced appliances, EMS, smart inverters
- A123 Systems – battery storage
- SunPower Corp. – solar photovoltaic systems
- Itron Inc. – SmartConnect™ metering infrastructure
- EPRI – analysis, simulation, data acquisition
- USC – DARNet security and interoperability protocols
- Cal Poly Pomona – curriculum development



## Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration (ISGD)



## Irvine Smart Grid Demonstration (ISGD)

### • Evolution of Home Energy Efficiency Technologies in ISGD

Test Case	Energy Efficiency Level*	Home Area Network†	PV	EVSE	PEV (non-communicating)	Home Storage	PEV (communicating)	# of Homes
Control	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	~10
2012	35%	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	~10
2015	55%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	~10
2020-ZNE	65%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	~10

\* above 2005 Title 24 level

† includes in-home displays, programmable, controllable thermostats, energy management systems, smart appliances, Edison SmartConnect™ meters

EVSE – electric vehicle supply equipment

PEV – plug-in electric vehicle

PV – photo-voltaic

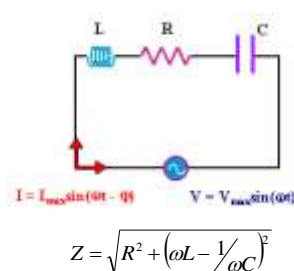
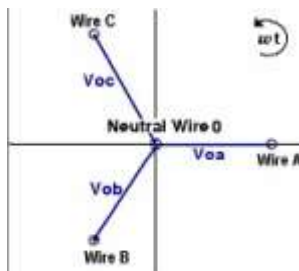




# ISGD Communication & Control Technologies

## Advanced Sensing and Measurement

- Smart meters – Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
- Cost-effective sensing and energy measurement for home automation and smart appliances
- Distribution network sensing
  - Monitor voltage, frequency, angle, component temperature, weather conditions such as irradiance, wind velocity, and ambient temperature
- Transmission system sensing – phasors/synchrophasors



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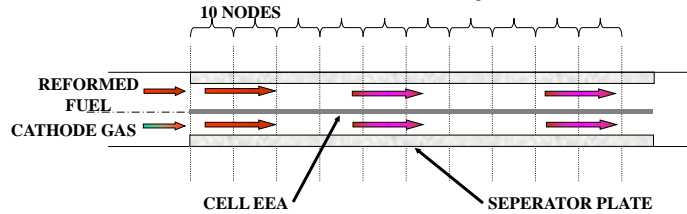
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## Sample Dynamic Simulation Module Geometries

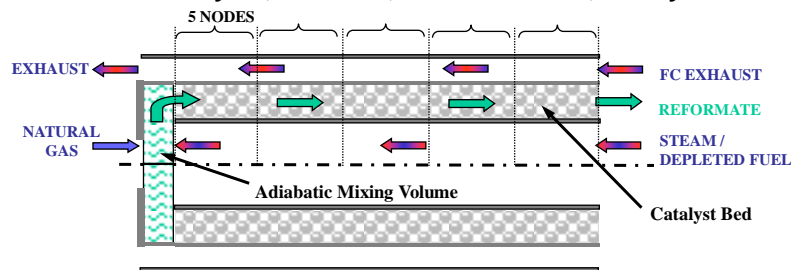
- **Planar SOFC with 10 Discrete Computational Nodes**

- Anode Gas, Cathode Gas, Cell EEA, Separator Plates



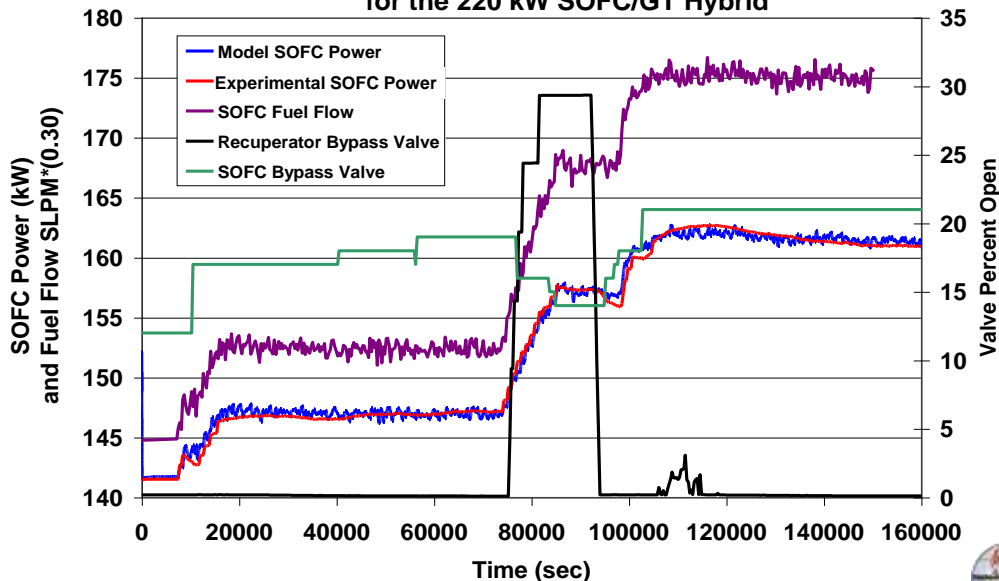
- **Reformer Module with 5 Discrete Computational Nodes**

- Anode Off-Gas Recycle, Fuel Mix, Combustor HX, Catalyst Bed

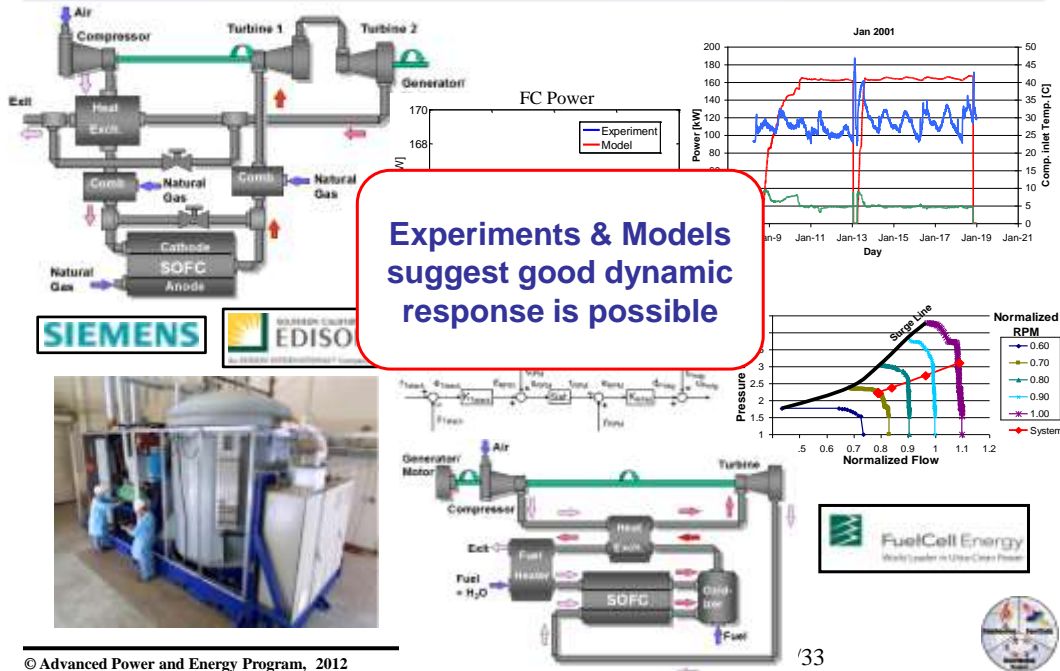


## Dynamic Simulation: 220kW SOFC/GT System

SOFC Power Experimental and Model Comparison  
for the 220 kW SOFC/GT Hybrid



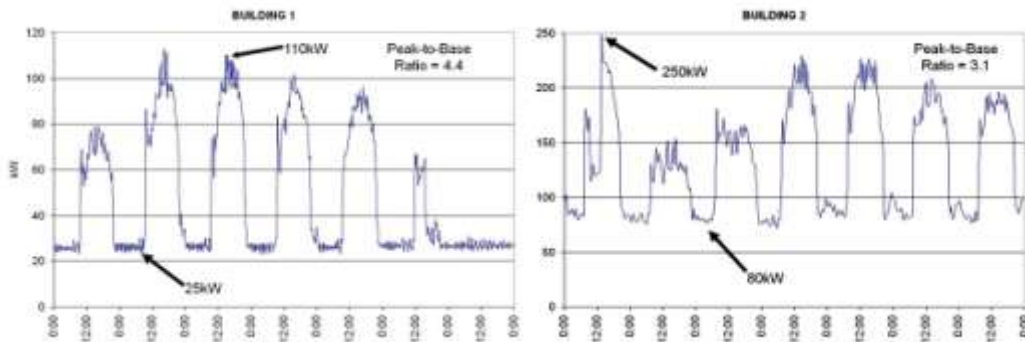
# Integrated Fuel Cell System Dynamics



## Building Energy and Controls

### Measure Dynamic Loads and CCHP Performance

- Measured commercial building dynamic loads



low computer use office space

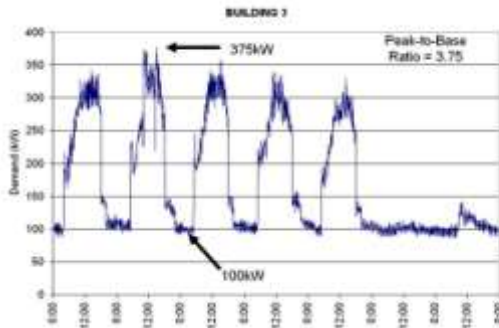
call and service center



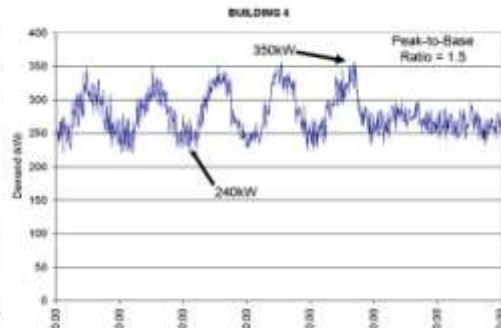
## Building Energy and Controls

### Measure Dynamic Loads and CCHP Performance

- Measured commercial building dynamic loads



computer intensive office



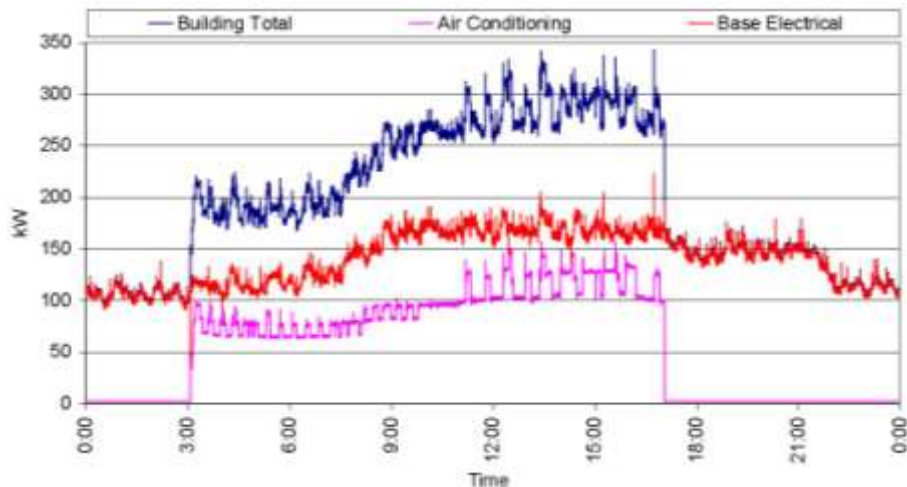
data center



## Building Energy and Controls

### Measure Dynamic Loads and CCHP Performance

- Commercial Office Building “High Resolution” Data



(1)

## Building Energy and Controls

### Simulate Existing CCHP Performance

- Example of integrated CCHP system and Simulink® embodiment (Meacham et al., 2006)

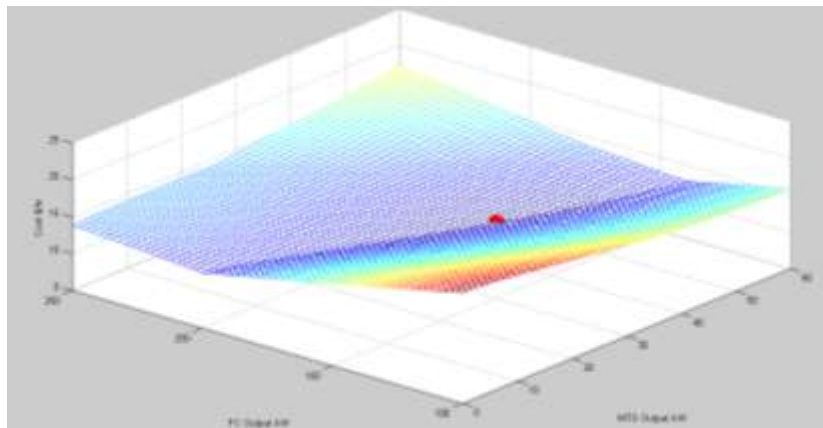


## Building Energy and Controls

### Develop Novel Control Algorithms

- Previous algorithm example (Meacham et al., 2006)

$$Cost = (P_{bldg} - P_{DG})C_e + \left(\frac{P_{DG}}{\eta_{DG}(P_{DG}, T_{amb})}\right)C_{NG} + K_{ws}(Th_{bldg} - Th_{DG}(P_{DG}, T_{amb})EFF_{DG})\left(\frac{C_e}{EFF_{comp}}\right)$$





# Dispatchable Renewable Power from Fuel Cells

## Steady-State Success (only)



Inland Empire Utilities, CA



Palmdale, CA – Waste-water



Tulare, CA – Waste-water treatment



Sun City, CA – Waste-water treatment



Pleasanton, CA  
Waste-water



King County, WA  
Waste-water plant



Santa Barbara, CA – Waste-water treatment  
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# Enable Local Hydrogen Fuel Provision

## Energy Station Concept – local (& dynamic?) H<sub>2</sub> production

- Energy Station
- Electric Power Generation
  - Thermal Power Generation
  - Hydrogen Generation
- “Renewable Energy Station”
- Green Electricity
  - Green Thermal Power
  - Renewable Hydrogen



NATURAL GAS  
LAND-FILL GAS

**2010: World's First Renewable High Temperature Fuel Cell Hydrogen Tri-Generation Demonstration**  
Orange County Sanitation District, Fountain Valley, CA



UC Irvine H<sub>2</sub> Fueling Station  
350 bar; 700 bar; liquid (future)

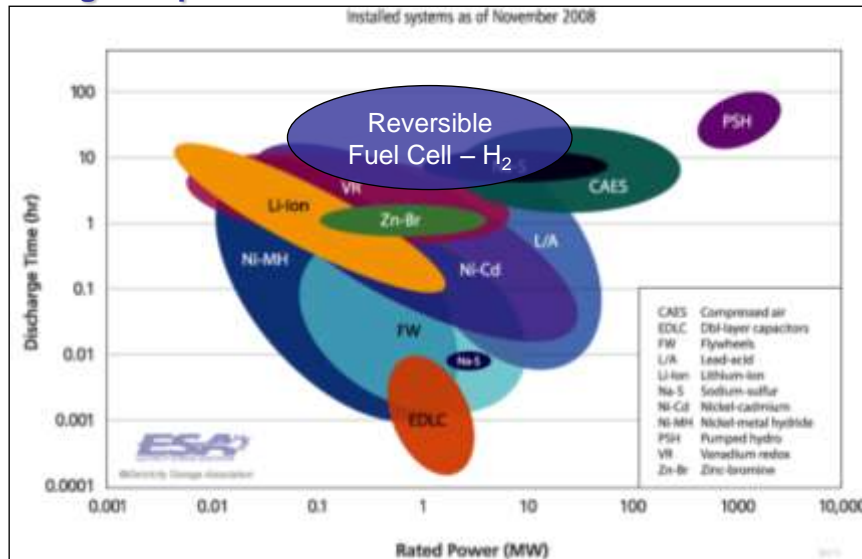
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# Energy Storage Technology Required

- Rating Comparison



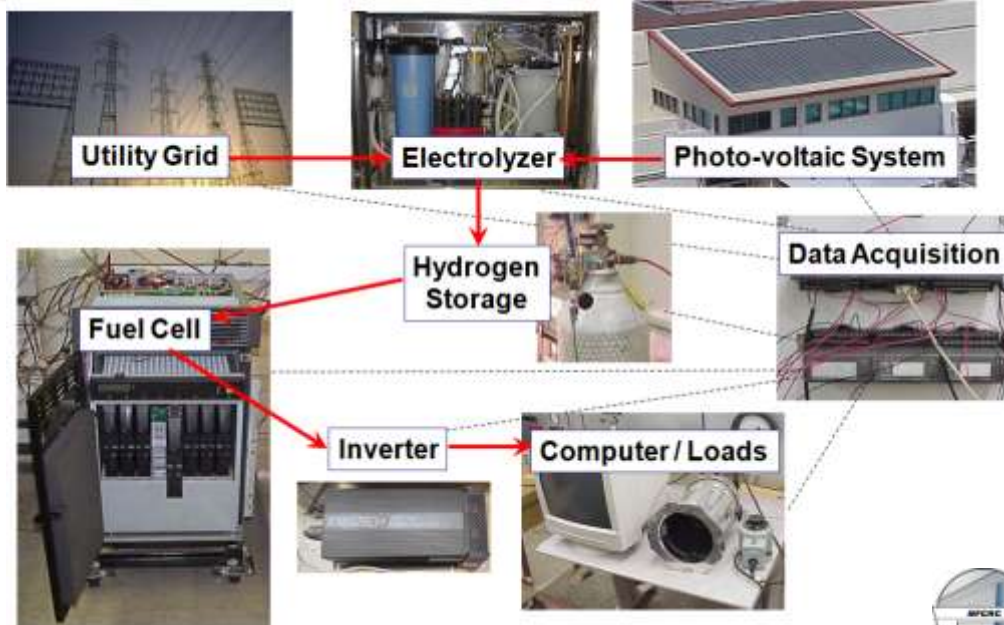
Electricity Storage Association, 2009

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# Renewable Fuel Cell Systems Research



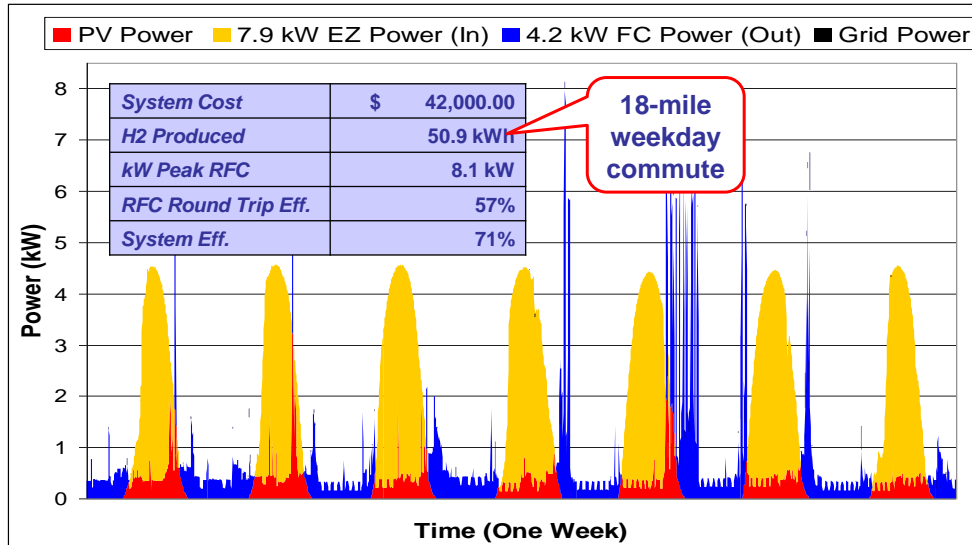
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# Renewable Fuel Cell Systems Research

## 4.2 kW RFC Supply & Demand Power Flow:



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## Hydrogen Energy Storage

### Solar Hydrogen Backup Power System Los Alamitos, CA



- PV: 10kW- 60 Sharp 175 W, 15,682 kWh Annual Basis
- Proton Energy Hogen S40RE electrolyzer
- 4 5kW GenCore Fuel Cells
- 2- APC Symmetra LX-8 -16 KVA batteries



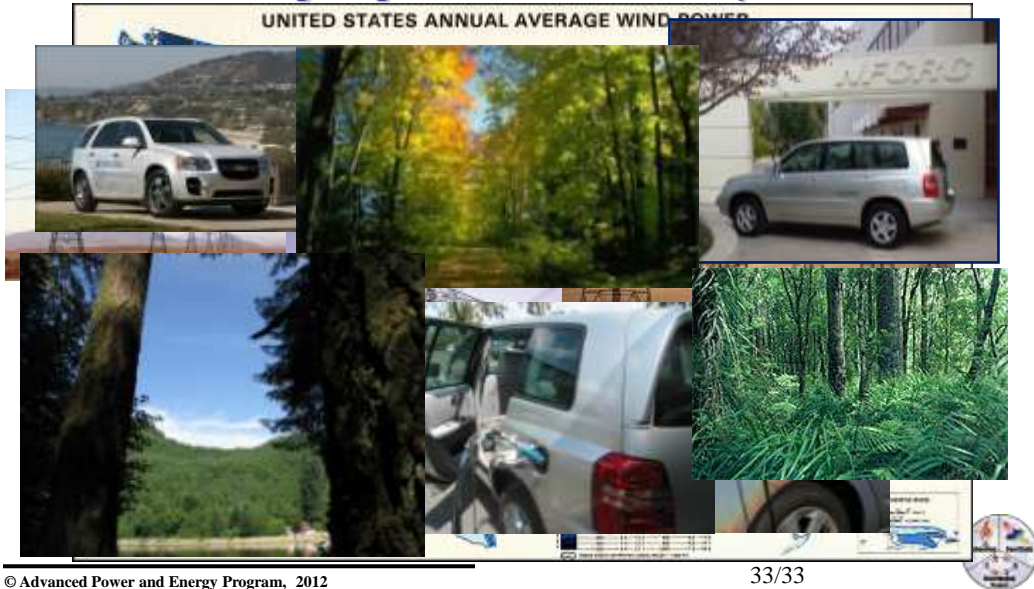
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# Hydrogen Energy Storage

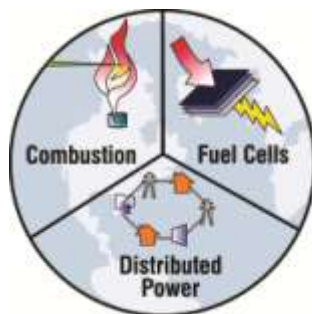
Pipeline transmission may be preferred to wires

Co-benefit of long-range zero emissions transportation fuel



**THANKS for Your Attention!**

## Questions?



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